CONFIDENTIAL.

Collection No. 60

Year 1937 —1938

P-23

General and Revenue Secretariat.

CB 189-37-1

Confidential Branch.

B May 1938

SUBJECT .... Government Order regarding certain requests made by the President of the State Congress Committee.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.

CB 182-37-1 (C.C.)

LATER REFERENCES.

CB 98-38-142 (Suppl)

CB 161-37-2642 (Suppl)

CB 191-38-1

CB 42-39-6

CB Dno 1762

CB 116-43-(Pt 4)

WD 1915—GPB—500—24-2-30

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit herewith for His Highness's gracious perusal the note received from Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda, President of the State Congress Committee, and the Official Memorandum which is proposed to be issued in the matter.

Mirza M. Ismail

Mysore,
14th May 1938.

DEWAN.

The Dewan and the Members of Council have since approved a draft Government Order in place of this Memorandum.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Draft Government Order regarding certain requests made by the President of the State Congress Committee.

YD.674

Order.

~~KRW~~
16/5/38

3

OFFICE OF THE DEWAN OF MYSORE.

ORDERS.

OFFICE NOTE.

Subs

The P. S. M. phones as follows (8.20 p.m.) :-

He took the papers to the Resident & discussed them with him. The Resident is not at all happy about the position by the draft relating to "recognition" of Congress. He has returned draft with him and wants him to consult it. till tomorrow. P. S. M. is going to see him again at 9.30 a.m. tomorrow

CR
15/5-

I Number
II Number

16/5-

DS JR

16/5-

MM
17/5/38
MM 16/5-

DEWAN'S OFFICE
17 MAY 1938
No. 212

5

DEWAN'S MINUTE.

FILE No. 193 .

Chief Secy

Please send 6 Copies of the G. O. on Stds.
Congress etc to
the Secretary to the Resol.
for information

17-5-38

17/5/38

General and Revenue Secretariat.

SUBJECT :—

Draft Government Order regarding certain requests made by the President of the State Congress Committee

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(*)

31. All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Members of Council for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Members.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the Members of Council at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

Circulated to Members of Council for perusal of His* Highness' orders ~~before~~/after issue of orders. (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.)

~~C.~~ *Chief Secretary to Government.*

Through the Secretary to Government,

..... Department.

FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

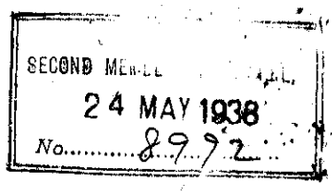
SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

NOTE.—Contn. sheet.

WD 1170—GPB—1,000—24-12-36

Serial No.

7 2681 10



c6691,
24/5

Copy of Mr. Vallabhbhai's letter to the Viceroy, together with its enclosure, is sent herewith for favour of circulation to the Members of Council for their info

Chief Sec 13/c, Ce 28/5 NW 25/5

24 1764. I Minute 24/5 II Minute 24/5

Secret Secretariat.

from 26/5

Private Secy 26.5

Confl B

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

CS 189-37-8 Reception from Mr. Gurappa Gowda

Through the intervention of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Acharya Kripalani the following settlement was arrived at between the Mysore State authorities and the Mysore State Congress:-

1. The Mysore State Congress declares that hoisting by it of the National Flag has never been intended to be derogatory hostile or disrespectful to the Mysore Flag or to the throne of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. Further it is the declared policy of the Mysore State Congress to attain Responsible Government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. Therefore accepting the advice of Mahatma Gandhi the Mysore State Congress decides that on all ceremonial occasions it shall hoist the National Flag along with the Mysore Flag. The Congress shall however be free to hoist the National Flag at purely Congress meetings.

2. The State authorities agree to due recognition to the Mysore State Congress as a political organisation.

3. The State authorities agree to give assurance in writing that it will be open to the Reforms Committee to discuss the issue of Responsible Government and to recommend the same.

4. In addition to the four Congress members already nominated to the Reforms Committee three additional members selected by the State Congress shall be nominated by the Government.

5. There shall be a general amnesty for all political prisoners and withdrawal of all prohibitory orders.

6. That the Mysore State Congress agrees to suspend the civil disobedience and no tax campaign or the preaching thereof.

Mr. C. E. NORONHA, M.A.,
Private Secretary.

Mysore,

Dated the 17th May, 1938.

Rs 1725/

A copy of the Government Order declaring the policy of Government in regard to the recognition of the Mysore State Congress and cognate matters, as approved by the Dewan, is herewith sent, together with 150 spare copies (50 unsigned and 100 signed). The Dewan desires that the Order should be issued at once.

By Order,

17/5

Private Secretary to Dewan.

Chief Secretary with compliments.

17.5

The Government of His Highness the Maharaja greatly deplore the misunderstandings which have lately arisen, and which have interrupted that co-operation between the Government and all sections of the people, which is so necessary for the constitutional progress of the State. Above all, His Highness the Maharaja and ~~His Highness's~~ his Government deeply regret the tragic happening at Viduraswatham. They express again the deep sympathy which they feel for any innocent sufferers, and for the relations or dependents of all the sufferers in that unhappy incident. His Highness's subjects are aware that an impartial body of eminent gentlemen of high judicial experience has been appointed to investigate the whole matter, and that the Government are determined that the causes and progress of the occurrence should be ~~well and truly~~ fully examined and brought to light.

2. His Highness's Government are happy to feel that these misunderstandings are now being cleared away and that the time has come when with renewed vigour the Government and all His Highness's subjects may together approach the task of determining how best the people may be further associated in the work of government; a task which will require the sustained and devoted labour of all who are anxious ~~for~~ to promote the welfare of ~~His Highness's people~~ the State. With the assurance of this co-operation His Highness's Government are pleased to make the following declarations.

3. The Government ~~believe~~ understand that the Mysore State Congress are prepared now to co-operate with the Government in the task of constitutional reforms; that they will act as a political party formed within the State of His Highness's subjects, and that they intend to carry on their work in a peaceful and constitutional manner, as befitting a party which has declared its aim to be the attainment of responsible Government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja. Having this belief, His Highness's Government are prepared to recognise the Mysore State Congress as a political organization. The Government desire that all political organizations within the State should have the fullest opportunity to make constructive proposals in the Committee on Constitutional Reforms, and are therefore pleased to add to the members of that Committee three

new members to be selected by the Mysore State Congress. They confirm explicitly, as they have previously made clear and as is implied in the Committee's terms of reference, that it is open to the Committee to discuss and recommend any plan for Constitutional Reform, including a plan for responsible government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja.

4. A powerful cause for misunderstanding has been cleared away by the declaration of the Mysore State Congress that hoisting by it of the flag of the Indian National Congress has never been intended to be derogatory, hostile or disrespectful to the Mysore flag or to the throne of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. To make this clear, the party accepting the advice of Mahatma Gandhi, have decided that on all ceremonial occasions it shall hoist the Mysore flag and the flag of the Indian National Congress together, hoisting the latter flag alone at purely party meetings only. The Government have recently declared that their policy regarding the hoisting of the flag of the Indian National Congress is solely dictated by their determination, a determination that is shared by all His Highness's loyal subjects, that no act should be done nor ceremony performed within the State which can be represented in any way to be opposed to the devotion and loyalty to His Highness the Maharaja, which is felt ~~by all His Highness's subjects~~ throughout the length and breadth of the State. His Highness's Government rejoice to know that the Mysore State Congress have unequivocally declared their loyalty in this way, and feel that no further misunderstanding need arise. They foresee no difficulty in adjusting points of detail which have not been made clear in the party's declaration, and propose to issue a further memorandum on these points shortly.

5. The Government understand that the Mysore State Congress, being prepared to co-operate with the Government in the onerous tasks which lie ahead, will now suspend their civil disobedience and no-tax campaigns and the preaching of such campaigns.

6. His Highness's Government, being assured that the recent clouds upon the political life of the State have been happily lifted, have already been pleased to order that all political prisoners should be released and

all prohibitory orders withdrawn. These orders have been given effect to as far as has been practicable, and further orders in respect of pending cases are shortly to be issued. This act will, they hope, mark the conclusion of a period of doubt and difficulty, and the inauguration of a new era of progress and prosperity in the State.

Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

G. O. No. 3862-3931—C. B., dated Mysore the 17th May 1938.

Recognition of the Mysore State Congress and cognate matters.

Declaring the policy of Government in regard to the—

ORDER No. 3862-3931—C.B., DATED MYSORE THE 17TH MAY 1938.

The Government of His Highness the Maharaja greatly deplore the misunderstandings which have lately arisen, and which have interrupted that co-operation between the Government and all sections of the people which is so necessary for the constitutional progress of the State. Above all, His Highness the Maharaja and his Government deeply regret the tragic happening at Viduraswatham. They express again the deep sympathy which they feel for any innocent sufferers, and for the relations or dependents of all the sufferers in that unhappy incident. His Highness's subjects are aware that an impartial body of eminent gentlemen of high judicial experience has been appointed to investigate the whole matter, and that the Government are determined that the causes of the occurrence and sequence of events should be fully examined and brought to light.

2. His Highness's Government are happy to feel that these misunderstandings are now being cleared away and that the time has come when, with renewed vigour, the Government and all subjects of His Highness may together approach the task of determining how best the people may be further associated in the work of government—a task which will require the sustained and devoted labour of all who are anxious to promote the welfare of the State. With the assurance of this co-operation His Highness's Government are pleased to make the following declarations.

3. The Government understand that the Mysore State Congress are prepared now to co-operate with the Government in the task of constitutional reform; that they will act as a political party formed within the State and composed of subjects of His Highness, and that they intend to carry on their work in a peaceful and constitutional manner, as befitting a party which has declared its aim to be the attainment of responsible government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja. Having this belief, His Highness's Government are prepared to recognise the Mysore State Congress as a political organisation.

4. The Government desire that all political organisations within the State should have the fullest opportunity to make constructive proposals in the Committee on Constitutional Reforms, and are, therefore, pleased to add to the members of that Committee three new members to be selected by the Mysore State Congress. They confirm explicitly, as they have previously made clear and as is implied in the Committee's terms of reference, that it is open to the Committee to discuss and recommend any plan for constitutional reform, including a plan for responsible government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja.

5. A powerful cause for misunderstanding has been cleared away by the declaration of the Mysore State Congress that the hoisting by it of the flag of the Indian National Congress has never been intended to be derogatory, hostile or disrespectful to the Mysore flag or to the throne of His Highness the Maharaja. To make this clear, the party, accepting the advice of Mahatma Gandhi, have decided that on all ceremonial occasions it shall hoist the Mysore flag and the flag of the Indian National Congress together, hoisting the latter flag alone at purely party meetings only. The Government have recently declared that their policy regarding

the hoisting of the flag of the Indian National Congress is solely dictated by their determination—a determination that is shared by all His Highness's loyal subjects—that no act should be done or ceremony performed within the State which can be construed in any way as being inconsistent with that devotion and loyalty to His Highness the Maharaja which is felt throughout the length and breadth of the State. His Highness's Government are glad to know that the Mysore State Congress have unequivocally declared their loyalty in this way, and feel that no further misunderstanding need arise. They foresee no difficulty in adjusting points of detail which have not been made clear in the party's declaration, and propose to issue a further memorandum on these points shortly.

6. The Government understand that the Mysore State Congress, being prepared to co-operate with the Government in the onerous tasks which lie ahead, will now withdraw their civil disobedience and no-tax campaigns.

7. His Highness's Government, being assured that the recent clouds upon the political life of the State have been happily lifted, have already been pleased to order that all political prisoners should be released and all prohibitory orders withdrawn. These orders have been given effect to as far as has been practicable, and further orders in respect of pending cases are shortly to be issued. This act will, they hope, mark the conclusion of a period of doubt and difficulty, and the inauguration of a new era of progress and prosperity in the State.

BY ORDER,

H R Ramaswamy

Ag. *Chief Secretary to Government.*

To—

The Heads of Departments.
The Secretaries to Government.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Members of the Political Affairs Committee.
The President, Mysore State Congress.
Press Table.

WD 1838—GBPM—200—17-5-38.

15

CS 189-37-1

Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S
18 MAY 1938

G. O. No. 3862-3931—C. B., dated Mysore the 17th May 1938.

Recognition of the Mysore State Congress and cognate matters.

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16

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BY ORDER,

Ag. *Chief Secretary to Government.*

To—

The Heads of Departments.
The Secretaries to Government.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Members of the Political Affairs Committee.
The President, Mysore State Congress.
Press Table.

WD 1838—GBPM—200—17-5-38.

Submitted 17

RD)

The Confidential Branch of the Secretariat seeks instructions if the recent Government Orders regarding the recognition of the Mysore State Congress 1) may be published in the Gazette and also 2) if copies may be sent to the Members of the Vidurashwatham Committee. Distinctions required also to the members of the C.R. Committee

SD
17/5

ND

Submitted for orders.
The P.O. has been directed to the Editor's Table. Perhaps it may also be published in the Gazette

Yes
17/5

CC
17/5

Yes -

Sent to Chief/JS for kind info
17.5.38

18

18th May 1938

D.O. No Pol 1270 Encls 6

Dear Sir,

I am desired to forward herewith for the information of the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore six copies of Govt. Order issued yesterday declaring the policy of Government in regard to the recognition of the Mysore State Congress and cognate matters.

Yours sincerely,

H. Trevelyan, Esqr., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.

19 C-5281

From Train,

21st May 1938.

My dear Sir Mirza,

I am writing this from the train. Herewith I enclose a copy of the instructions sent by the President to the Mysore Congress. I am sure this will relieve you of your anxiety.

Yours sincerely,

VALLABHBHAI.

Sir Mirza M. Ismail, K.C.I.E., O.B.E.,
Dewan of Mysore,
BANGALORE.

" COPY. "

20

20th May, 1938.

26, Marine Drive,

BOMBAY.

Dear Friend,

When the resolution on Mysore was passed, it was decided that on the question of Flag hoisting I should convey to you the direction of the Working Committee.

It seems that simultaneous hoisting of the two Flags is not practicable. The Flags will have to be hoisted one after the other and on separate poles. Probably there will be some ceremony attending the hoisting. It was for such reasons that probably the Congressmen in Mysore raised the question of precedence before Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. In the opinion of the Working Committee, seeing that the larger loyalty of the Mysoreans is derived from their primary loyalty to the State, the Mysore Flag should be hoisted first with such ceremony if any, as may be necessary, and then the national Flag should be hoisted also with such ceremony, if any, as may be necessary. It need hardly be pointed out that there will be no attempt at claiming superiority of one Flag over the other; that the one is a local Flag and the other is an all India Flag does not need to be demonstrated by any distinction being made in favour of the latter, e.g., by assigning to it a higher or a more distinguishing-looking pole. In brief, it is the desire of the Working Committee that the Mysore State Congress will avoid all occasions of clash with the State authority in the matter of Flag hoisting. It is no small gain that the National Flag has got a definite recognition on the part of the State. There is one other matter to which I am to draw your attention. According to newspaper reports some members of the Mysore State Congress seem to have repudiated the recently passed

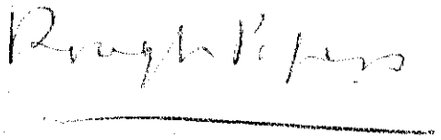
resolution

resolution of the Working Committee about the use of the name "Congress" in Mysore. In the first place, a copy of the resolution has not yet been sent to them; and secondly before going to the Press it was the duty of the Mysore State Congress to approach the Congress Secretariat here for elucidation and explanation. As Sardar Vallabhbhai pointed out to you and as was insisted upon by Gandhiji to the deputation at Segaon, that whilst it was better if you could divest yourselves of the name of the Congress - if you could not do so, in order to show that yours was not a branch of the Indian National Congress, and that it was a local organisation open to Congressmen, you were bound to admit on your rolls not only those who had become primary members of the I. N. Congress, but also any body belonging to Mysore. If you are to carry out the letter and the spirit of the Haripura resolution as also the latest resolution, it is necessary for you to give effect to what is stated here.

Yours sincerely,

" COPY. "

22/5



22

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Order No.

Dated, Bangalore, the May 1938.

Mr. H.B. Gundappa Gowda, President of the Mysore State Congress, has placed certain requests before Government on behalf of the State Congress. Government have considered these requests and desire to state as follows:-

(1) The Congress flag: A separate memorandum will issue shortly regarding the use of this flag in the State.

(2) As intimated by the Dewan to Mr. T. Siddalingiah in ~~March~~ April last, Government are prepared to recognise the State Congress as a political organisation, so long as it carries on its work in a peaceful and constitutional manner.

(3) It has been authoritatively stated before, and Government wish to take this opportunity of stating once again, that the Constitutional Reforms Committee is not debarred from discussing and making recommendations on the question of "responsible government."

(4) All political prisoners will be released and all prohibitory orders will be withdrawn in view of the assurance given by the State Congress that they will call off

the civil disobedience movement and no-tax campaign.

Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.
" Inspector-General of Prisons "
" Heads of Departments.
" Secretaries to Government-
" President, Mysore State Congress Committee.
The PRESS TABLE.